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CPW Report No. 83 - COMMUNIST CHINA

(13 - 19 July, 1953)

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1. (1a) SOVIET ECONOMIC PENETRATION: Peking reported in numeral code (July 18) that China's first auto factory was being constructed, with Soviet "aid, equipment, and guidance." At the ground-breaking ceremony, Northeast officials thanked Soviet advisers for their "fraternal Soviet aid." Peking said in numeral code (July 19) that ten Soviet experts had made more than 100 proposals for improving Chinese designing.

2. (1b) SINO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP: Peking stated in numeral code (July 13) that the Moscow press featured the Chinese industry and agriculture exhibit held there, and added (July 18) that the USSR Chamber of Commerce met to honor the event. Peking said (July 19) that the Chinese youth delegation placed wreaths on the tombs of Lenin and Stalin.

Shanghai announced (July 16) that the local post office was accepting subscriptions for PRAVDA, IZVESTIA, TRUD, and other Russian publications. Shanghai added (July 19) that the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association honored the birth anniversary of Soviet poet Mayakovsky with a gala meeting. Tihua said (July 14) that the Tarbagatai branch of the SSFA had introduced Soviet films, photo exhibits, and lectures.

3. (1b) ADOPTION OF SOVIET PROPAGANDA: Peking in numeral code (July 15) quoted TASS reports on meetings throughout the USSR to discuss and approve the Beria ouster; on the decision's approval by public opinion in the People's Democracies; and, on the event's repercussions in Western Europe. Shanghai said (July 15) that the Moscow press was carrying Chinese comment on the Beria case.

Peking in numeral code (July 13) quoted the USSR Foreign Minister's statement on the U.S. food offer to East Germany, and cited East German Government denials of a need for American food. Peking asserted (July 15) that the German masses were indignant over the American proposals.

4. (1c) SOVIET SUPERIORITY: Peking reported in numeral code (July 15) that the All-China Medical Association devoted a meeting to the discussion of Pavlov's theories. Peking added (July 18) that 15 meetings, attended by 13,000 scientists, technicians and educators, had been held by the Chinese scientists' delegation returning from the USSR to publicize the superiority of advanced Soviet science.

Chungking (July 14), in its "learn from the Soviet Army" talk, explained how a Soviet company commander properly indoctrinates his men. Peking said in numeral code (July 14) that Fushun steel mill workers saved on furnace repairs after following the advice of their Soviet expert.

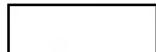
Peking stated in numeral code (July 16) that the Soviet method of placing the tugboat in the middle of the tow line had been used with great success, and added (July 19) that 90 percent of the 172 Hunan River boats had adopted the Soviet single-line towing method.

According to Peking in numeral code (July 18) the Hangchow workers' clinic adopted Soviet "block therapeutics" in treating back injuries and chemical wounds. The Shuangchiao State farm produced a bumper wheat crop by employing Soviet farming methods.

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5. (2a) WAR BURDEN: Peking reported in numeral code (July 19) that "Ankang" was sending agents to Shanghai, Harbin, Dairen, and other places to discuss delivery of orders ahead of schedule. Chungking (July 18) urged army troops to support Party leadership, as future army tasks "would be much greater" and China must build the "second largest armed force in the world."

According to Sian (July 17) a Civil Affairs Office directive called for unreserved implementation of preferential treatment on Army Day, August 1. Two "villages of glory" with 180 houses had been opened for needy dependents of army men.

6. (2c) ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES: According to Peking in numeral code (July 14) the Wuhan Bureau of Trade organised spot-check teams to prevent commodity speculation. Shanghai reported (July 16) that the Nanyang Brothers Tobacco Company had reduced production "to meet sales problems," while the Shanghai tobacco factory No. 5 reduced defective goods by 50 percent.

Peking revealed in numeral code (July 18) that only half of China's power plants had fulfilled assignments, due to the "poor quality of work." Peking stated in numeral code (July 19) that poor storage facilities caused the loss of 120,000 catties of kaoliang and other grain, and of 21,000 catties of wheat in Tsuyang and Hueimin hsien, Kiangsu. In Huangtai Hsien, 17 percent of warehouse stock was infested.

Mukden reported (July 13) that a Chinchor Federation of Labor meeting discussed failures to fulfill quotas because of lack of discipline and absenteeism. The local Party Chairman demanded better political and ideological education, and "assistance to workers who violated labor discipline so they could correct their errors." Peking said in numeral code (July 17) that with improved labor protection devices and "alleviation of work pressure," absenteeism had dropped in 12 State cotton mills.

Peking stated in numeral code (July 14) that the Communications Ministry had warned truck operators against overloading, and had ordered car and truck owners to obey laws and keep their vehicles in good condition.

7. (3a) BASIC CONSTRUCTION: According to Peking in numeral code (July 19) personnel and equipment were shipped to Chengtu, Szechwan, to aid in petroleum explorations. More than 100 technicians had been trained for the work. Mukden asserted (July 17) that since 1949 Harbin's population had increased 50 percent, while industrial production was up 500 percent.

Peking reported in numeral code (July 13) that the Ministry of Heavy Industry had demanded improved production, because in many cases proper planning had been neglected. Chinchor said (July 14) that Liaosi project workers were ordered to assume a more responsible attitude.

Peking announced in numeral code (July 18) that the Fuel Ministry had demanded better power production management, as the State power production plan had been only half fulfilled. In an effort to gain speed, quality was overlooked, the need for minor repairs was ignored, and repairs were unscientifically handled.

Peking said in numeral code (July 14) that Central-South institutions of higher learning had been reorganized to meet national construction demands, with engineering and normal schools now being revised. Mukden reported (July 19) that the Northeast Administrative Committee had ordered reorganization of middle technical schools.

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According to Peking in numeral code (July 16) revised plans now called for the building or expansion of 137 light industry plants, including new salt, tobacco, and liquor factories; ten sugar mills, ten pharmaceutical plants; and, expansion of Northeast and East China rubber factories.

8. (3a) STRENGTHENING PARTY CONTROL: Mukden reported (July 18) that the Northeast Party Bureau had called a meeting to strengthen Party leadership at construction projects, where erroneous thinking had led to neglect of the Party's political role.

According to Shanghai (July 14) the CHIEH FANG JIH PAO quoted Lenin and Stalin in urging stronger labor discipline to achieve proletarian dictatorship. Workers must accept the priority of the national welfare, improve their discipline, study Socialism, and correct errors in thinking.

Shanghai announced (July 17) that local Party organs were promoting the theoretical education of cadres, with labor union schools training political teachers and selected cadres carrying theoretical training into factories and mines. Nanking asserted (July 16) that ideological training had raised the efficiency of local tool shop workers.

Peking reported in numeral code (July 15) that the North China Party Committee had created up to five experimental hsien each in Shansi, Hopei, and Suiyuan to test programs, train rural leaders, and "learn the wishes of the masses." Peking said (July 17) that the People's Revolutionary Council had called for better Party leadership in youth work among troops.

Peking announced in numeral code (July 16) that the Peking People's Court held its first judicial class, attended by 115 cadres from local courts. Peking added (July 19) that the Chengtu People's Court had set up a People's Tribunal to pass on voter qualifications, with 90 cases already adjudicated.

9. (3b) CONTROL OF RELIGION: Shanghai asserted (July 14) that a Kuangtzu Hospital rally, hearing letters from 24 supporting organizations, demanded strong measures against Catholic imperialists who utilized the Kuomintang and French (police) to persecute workers and seize peasant lands. Doctors were accused of poisoning Chinese patients.

Shanghai announced (July 17) that the exhibit on Catholic activities would be closed three days for a rearrangement of displays, and added (July 19) that thousands had rallied to support the Shanghai Military Court deportation order against Catholic imperialists.

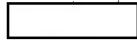
Shanghai said (July 18) that a Buddhist statement urged adherents to support the arrest of Catholic imperialists and the struggle of patriotic Catholics.

10. (3e) AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS: Peking asserted in numeral code (July 19) that the cadres of the Jukao Hsien, Kiangsu, cooperative had corrected their attitudes and were handling native products despite the small profit. Peasants had gained confidence in the North China agricultural machinery plant since its proportion of rejected plows had been cut from 30 to one percent.

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Peking reported in numeral code (July 15) that 800 people were working with hoes at the Pacchuanling mechanized farm and 700 at the Erhlungshan farm because heavy rains made the machinery unusable. Changsha said (July 14) that the Hunan General Merchandise Company was attempting to meet the consumer demands of peasants who had sold their grain, though many stores had insufficient stocks.

Sian said (July 16) that the Northwest Party Committee had charged rural cadres and peasants with waste of time in needless meetings, improper distribution of labor, and insufficient study of production directives. Local organs were ordered to inspect mutual aid teams and educate cadres to work with them.

11. (4) BORDER MINORITIES: Peking said in numeral code (July 15) that Yunnan comfort missions, carrying letters and gifts, had visited troops and border areas minorities to assure them of Government concern for their welfare. Peking said (July 18) that 30 teachers from Chinese universities were training cadres at the Sinkiang Nationalities College.

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SUMMARY

Soviet aid is acknowledged in the construction of China's first auto factory, and returning scientists hold meetings and classes to impress Soviet superiority upon Chinese intellectual workers. Post offices again offer Soviet publications to the public, a program which apparently was not very effective in the past. At the same time, Moscow propaganda concerning the Beria case and the U.S. food offer to East Germany is accepted and repeated without deviation.

Party leadership is strengthened on construction projects, where "erroneous thinking" had developed; Party projects are expanded in the Armed Forces; and, ideological re-training is accelerated in factories and mines. Technical training courses are re-organized in an effort to advance the heavy industry program, and "education" is urged for workers violating labor discipline. Establishment of people's tribunals to pass on voters' qualifications indicates the control which will be exercised over the elections, while enlistment of Buddhists in the campaign against "Catholic imperialists" is part of an apparent plan to advance strict Party or State control over religious groups.

Commercial and industrial weaknesses are illustrated by efforts of "Ankang" to force deliveries of needed materials ahead of schedule; by admitted fear of commodity speculation; and, by complaints over lack of planning and responsibility. Buyer resistance, causing one tobacco factory to reduce output, probably results from the admittedly poor quality of the products. It is revealed that the power production plan is far behind schedule, while attempts to speed up production have resulted in low-quality goods and broken machinery, and excessive absenteeism. Construction or expansion of 137 consumer goods factories is promised, perhaps to allay resentment against the "guns instead of butter" basic construction plan.

The establishment of "experimental hsien" to test programs, train leaders, and "learn the wishes of the masses"; charges that peasants and cadres waste time in unnecessary meetings; and, orders for examination of mutual aid teams practices--all suggest new efforts to allay peasant dissatisfaction. Hundreds of men are reported working with hoes on the so-called mechanized farms, while other indications of unsatisfactory rural conditions can be seen in the revelation that 30 percent of the plows produced in one farm machinery plant were defective, and that in some areas stores do not offer sufficient goods to supply the peasants.

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